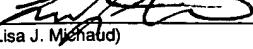


3732

PATENT

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Dated: September 30, 2003Signature:   
(Lisa J. Michaud)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Lisa M. Donnelly et al.  
 Application No: 10/608,899  
 Filing Date: June 27, 2003  
 Entitled: **FLEXIBLE TIBIAL SHEATH**  
 Atty. Docket No: 22956-218

Group Art Unit: 3732  
 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Commissioner for Patents  
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. A copy of each reference on PTO/SB/08 is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the U.S. filing date (37 CFR 1.97(b)(1)), thus no fees are believed to be due. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 141449, under Order No. 101896-0178. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 30, 2003
  
 Lisa J. Michaud, Reg. No: 44,238  
 Attorney for Applicant

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<b>Complete If Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/608,899
				Filing Date	June 27, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Lisa M Donnelly et al.
				Art Unit	3732
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	22956-218

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

**<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.**

<b>Examiner Signature</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>	
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